39. *Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory.*—The construction of the buildings for the factory is in rapid progress and the machinery is being fitted up. It is expected that the factory will actually begin to work very shortly. The total expenditure on account of the buildings and the machinery would be about Rs 4·74 lakhs at the close of the current year and a provision of Rs 1·35 lakhs has been made in the next year's budget for the completion of the buildings and machinery and the refining operations. A net revenue of Rs ·95 of a lakh is expected in the next year. This works up to 15 per cent. on the capital outlay.

40. *Commercial Transport.*—This scheme which was announced at the Budget Session of the Assembly and the Council last year, began actually to function in Kumbhom last with a fleet of 59 buses and 1 break-down lorry. Service was first started on the Trivandrum—Nagercoil—Cape and Nagercoil—Colachal routes. Later on, the Trivandrum Town Service and the Trivandrum – Nedumangad service were also taken up by the Transport Department. Just 3 days back *i. e.*, on the 5th of Karkatakam, Trivandrum—Quilon route also began to be served by the State Transport Scheme. On the whole, about 110 miles, besides the Trivandrum Town are now under operation. It is proposed to take over some of the feeder routes of the main Trivandrum—Cape Road for operation in the course of the next year. Negotiations for taking over the Transport business of the K. D. H. P. Co., have been practically completed. The investments up-to-date amount to Rs 5·85 lakhs and the net receipts for the current year after providing for interest on capital and depreciation, are expected to be Rs 1·15 lakhs. Government have every reason to hope that the scheme would give a substantial income on their outlay besides affording improved conveniences, and facilities to the travelling public in general. For the maintenance of the lines already opened and for the further expansion of the scheme, a lump sum provision of Rs 4·15 lakhs has been included in the budget for the next year.

41. *The State Land Mortgage Bank.*—The business of the State Land Mortgage Bank with all its assets and liabilities, is proposed to be transferred to the Travancore Credit Bank which, as the House is aware, was recently established as a Shareholders' Bank under Regulation IV of 1113 and which is expected to commence operations by about the middle of Chingom next. Provision has been made for the continuance of the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

existing Land Mortgage Bank for one month in 1114, pending its actual absorption by the Credit Bank.

42. *State Life Insurance (Public Branch).*—The Public branch of the State Life Insurance scheme has just entered the fifth year of its operations. Its increasing popularity is evident from the huge volume of business secured in a short period of 4 years. 5376 proposals for nearly 49 lakhs have been received so far and policies assuring a total sum of Rs 34 lakhs have already been issued. The monthly premium receipts now range between Rs. 12,000 and Rs 15,000. The balance to the credit of the Fund stood at Rs. 2·26 lakhs at the beginning of the current year and it is expected that the Fund will have Rs 3·66 lakhs to its credit at the end of the year and Rs 5·41 lakhs at the end of 1114. The expense ratio is expected to remain at 14 per cent. or even below. The accounts of the Fund are kept separate and Government have no financial commitments with regard to the guarantee of interest as in the Official Scheme. In spite of this, the interest yield on the Fund is satisfactory and the actual yield for 1112 was well above 3 per cent.

43. *State Life Insurance (Official Branch).*—The policies in force at the beginning of the year were 643 and the Fund balance stood at Rs 4·5 lakhs.

The actuarial valuation of the Fund for the quinquennium ended 31st Karkatagom 1111 completed during the year, disclosed a surplus of Rs 99,932 including carried forwards from the previous valuations and a simple Reversionary Bonus of 1¼ per cent. per annum was declared.

44. *The State Provident Fund.*—The State Provident Fund was instituted in the year 1107 with the object of making provision for Government employees in their old age or for their families in case of their premature death. The scheme maintained its record of progress during the year also. It has become popular and up to 3rd Mithunam 1113, 11134 accounts have been opened of which 10418 are effective. The closing balance for the current year is expected to reach Rs 9·34 lakhs and Rs 11·54 lakhs at the end of 1114.

45. *Cochin Harbour.*—According to the agreement of 1925 one-third of the cost of the fourth stage works in the Harbour estimated to cost Bh. Rs 92·83 lakhs is payable by this Government. Of this Rs 22 lakhs has already been paid and a provision of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly